

# CURRICULUM VITAE

## RYAN O NEWBORN

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**NAME OF FIRM:** OABS Development Pty Ltd  
**NAME OF STAFF:** Ryan O Newborn  
**PROFESSION:** Agricultural Consultant Forestry/ Timber/ Biomass  
**DATE OF BIRTH:** 27 September 1982  
**NATIONALITY:** South African

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### QUALIFICATIONS

2005 Nat Diploma Wood Tech – Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University  
2014 B Tech Forestry 2014 – Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University  
2017 MBA – Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University

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### EXPERIENCE

After graduation in 2005, Mr Newborn started his career working in operations of forestry and post-harvest value-addition facilities. He gained experience in various fields of the sector in South Africa including process optimization, benchmarking and general process management.

In 2008, Mr Newborn started consulting various firms in the strategy development and process optimization fields for several initiatives mostly focusing on transport and logistics. During this period, he obtained his B-Tech degree from the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University (part time) while employed within various roles in private consulting.

He joined OABS Development in 2011 as a consultant initially focusing on forestry related projects but since then has been actively involved in agricultural Development across South Africa and the SADC region. Ryan has a broad understanding of a vast number of land use applications (Agricultural & forestry) In South Africa. Ryan is an agricultural and Forestry business development specialist focusing on the assessment, development, packaging, and implementation of sectoral investments for optimal development and social impact. Ryan has the ability and experience of dealing with the complete project range of projects sizes from micro businesses and small-scale growers on a high impact level to large private equity multinationals and corporate investment firms looking for financial and social returns in the main.

Over the last 13 years Ryan has worked for and alongside several development finance institutions (IDC, Landbank, Hortfin etc, World Bank) developing and implementing various initiatives as well as several Agricultural Investment funds. Over the last 8 years Ryan has been on the project team of 16 Agricultural Due

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Diligence (public and private sector) which bears testament to his skill in project development evaluation and implementation in the agricultural development space.

In 2016, Mr Newborn, authored the Namibian Charcoal sector development strategy

In 2020, Mr Newborn was part of the project team that compiled the commercial forestry Masterplan for South Africa as part of the Presidency led PPGI (Public Private Growth Initiative) in South Africa.

In 2021, Mr Newborn was appointed as a member of GTAC Technical Evaluation Committee (TEC), a sub-panel of the National Treasury Jobs Fund, focusing specifically on Job creation initiatives in South Africa with specific focus on Agriculture.

During his career Mr Newborn participated in numerous projects for local and international agribusinesses, large mining houses and renewable energy initiatives as a researcher, Strategy developer, project developer and ultimately evaluation of projects. He was project leader on many of these projects, including leading large multidisciplinary teams.

Mr Newborn is also CEO of Phendula Holdings (Pty) Ltd, a private equity investment firm which participates in high impact Agricultural equity investments in South Africa.

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